Aboriginal leader 'an inspiration'

Former prime minister Paul Martin has words of high praise for Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence as her hunger strike nears the one-month mark PAGE 3

A WINNIE COMBO

DOWNTON ABBEY'S THOMAS HOWES AS A YOUNG WINSTON CHURCHILL LOCKS HORNS WITH INSPECTOR MURDOCH IN THE NEW SEASON OF MURDOCH MYSTERIES PAGE 8

SASKATOON metro®

Monday, January 7, 2013

News worth sharing.

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Your new NHL primer

Lockout's over. What you need to know as the battles go from the boardroom to along the boards

Hockey is back, but there remain several questions about the new season. Here are the answers, according to the details of the new agreement:

When will the season begin?
If it's a 50-game season, the puck drops on Jan. 15. If it's 48 games, it'll be Jan. 19. It's believed the maximum number of games is 50.

When would the playoffs end?
The Stanley Cup final could go to the end of June. June 29 is a Saturday, June 30 a Sunday. If the series goes to seven games, then Game 7 of the final could run that far.

What is the salary cap?
The cap for the first year is $60 million, with a floor of $44 million, but teams can spend up to $70.2 million. A central issue during bargaining was the cap ceiling for the second year (2013-14) — players wanted, stuck to and got $64.3 million.

What is the result of the bargaining on contract lengths?
Maximum contract lengths are seven years, and eight if teams re-sign their own players.

What will the agreement be between the NHL and the junior leagues regarding called-up junior-age players?
Details have not been released. The question remains how long they can remain in the NHL before their season becomes official (or they are returned to junior).

Is there a new order for the draft lottery?
All 14 non-playoff teams are expected to be in the lottery, compared to the previous five-team lottery. This could generate hard feelings since the lowest-finishing teams will likely lose the probability they had at the No. 1 pick under the old lottery.

Will NHL players be taking part in the Sochi Olympics?
It's expected the NHL will elect to have its players in Russia.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

LOCAL REACTION, PAGE 2
MORE NHL COVERAGE, PAGE 13

Oh yeah — that happened! Melville, Sask., native and Los Angeles Kings centre Jarret Stoll shows off the Stanley Cup during a rally at Pier Plaza in Hermosa Beach, Calif., June 25, 2012. In the wake of a 113-day lockout, this year's cup final could extend to June 30. CHRIS CARLSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Warm weather will be gone by weekend: Environment Canada

Enjoy it while you can. Temperate air from Pacific jet stream contributing to mild conditions

MORGAN MODJESKI
morgan.modjeski@metronews.ca

Those in southern Saskatchewan enjoying the warm weather should make the most of it this week: Environment Canada says the spell of above-average temperatures will be over by Friday.

Greg Pearce, a meteorologist with Environment Canada, explained that although temperatures in southern Saskatchewan have been up to six degrees higher than normal in January, the trend likely won't continue for the rest of the season.

"You shouldn't be getting used to this," said Pearce. "It looks like it's probably going to change by this weekend."

Pearce explained that temperatures in Saskatoon at the beginning of January have been averaging a high of -4 C, while overnight lows have been averaging -15 C compared to the normal temperature low of -20 C and high of -11 C.

Regina has seen similar trends: The city's highs have been averaging roughly -5 C, while the average low has been -18 C, compared to an average high of -11 C and an average low of -23 C.

"Over the course of the first four of five days of the new year, we've had very mild temperatures," said Pearce.

He added that the warmer weather is the result of a strong jet stream from the Pacific sweeping mild air across B.C. and into the southern Prairies.

Pearce said that overall these temperatures are "quite typical," as the record high for Jan. 6 in Saskatoon, set in 1963, is 5 C, and the record high for Regina, set in 1902, is 4.4 C.

Back to bundling

"You shouldn't be getting used to this.... It looks like it's probably going to change by this weekend."

Meteorologist Greg Pearce

Eight-year-old Chloe Maddison, left, and five-year-old Penelope Maddison enjoy the warmer-than-average temperature at Cameco Meewasin Skating Rink at PotashCorp Plaza on Sunday morning. Although many residents have been enjoying the mild temperatures, Environment Canada says that things will be back to normal by Friday. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Saskatonians chime in on the lockout's end

After a final marathon negotiation lasting more than 16 hours, the NHL and the NHLPA have reached a tentative collective-bargaining agreement, meaning the end of the NHL lockout and the start of the 2013 hockey season. Although the new CBA still needs to be drafted and approved by both sides, fans and players are optimistic.
Metro hit the streets to find out how local hockey fans feel about the potential end of the lockout.

MORGAN MODJESKI
morgan.modjeski@metronews.ca

Gord Richards, 62: Retired

"I like the shortened season, it gives me hope that the NHL will give us the hockey games that we desire. I really miss Hockey Night in Canada with Ron MacLean and Don Cherry, and now that we're going to get that, I'm quite happy."

Rick Maleschuk, 48: Property owner

"They're going to come back and have a 40-game season ... so that's sort of a sprint to the finish (and) that's going to make it exciting for everybody because every game is going to mean something."

Brittany Burrow, 20: Student

"I think it's already kind of lost my attention, it's been too long of a wait. I can understand why it took so long, but if they really wanted it to be a true season, they should have hurried it up a little more and got it over with a couple of months ago."

Danny Earl, 25: Teacher

"I feel like it's a little bit late, so I'll probably be paying quite a bit less attention. I'm not a heavy follower normally, but I watch 10 to 20 games in a year, but not as many this time I guess."

Kaitlyn Timmer, 24: Hospital employee

"The players — I think it's ridiculous that they get paid so much money and feel they need to strike. It affects people who work at stadiums and everything, so I don't think I'll be watching."

Chief an inspiration for all Canadians: Paul Martin

Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence holds hands with her daughter Juliette Spence during a press conference outside her teepee on Victoria Island in Ottawa on Friday. Spence has been on a hunger strike for more than three weeks. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hunger strike. Former PM who brokered Kelowna Accord meets with Spence, while Harper says he will meet with First Nations leadership this week

An aboriginal chief who has gone without solid food for close to a month in a bid to force renewed talks between First Nations and the federal government is an inspiration to all Canadians, says former prime minister Paul Martin.

Martin visited Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence at her camp on Ottawa's Victoria Island on Saturday.

He told CTV's Question Period Sunday that it was a good meeting.

"I just told her that she'd become really an inspiration for all Canadians and that we were obviously concerned about her health and that she's got to take care of herself," Martin said.

One of Martin's final acts as prime minister was the brokering of the Kelowna Accord, a deal between the government and First Nations that would have seen $5 billion in new spending over 10 years.

The money would have been used to improve education and health outcomes, as well as housing.

But Martin's Liberal government fell and was replaced by the Conservatives under Prime Minister Stephen Harper and the accord was never implemented.

Resetting the treaty relationship was Spence's goal when she began her self-proclaimed hunger strike on Dec. 11, giving up solid foods in favour of a liquids-only diet.

Spence was seeking a meeting between the prime minister, Governor General and First Nations leadership.

Her strike came as aboriginal activists also began a national protest movement called Idle No More in response to the Conservatives' latest budget bill.

The Idle No More movement feels the bill threatens their treaty rights with the changes it makes to regulations surrounding waterways.

Without acknowledging Spence's strike or the protest movement, Harper announced Friday that he will meet with First Nations leadership this week.

The talks will focus on two elements: the treaty relationship and economic development.

Those two are part of six broader themes that Harper and First Nations leaders agreed to work on following meetings last January.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Weekend protests

Idle No More protests continued over the weekend with groups blocking rail lines and border crossings throughout the country.

- A blockade of VIA Rail lines near Kingston on Saturday held up trains on the Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto corridor, affecting about 1,000 people.
- A protest at the Seaway International Bridge near Cornwall, Ont., prompted police to close the border crossing as a public safety precaution.

Sexual violence. Former B.C. politician weighs in on castration debate

EMILY JACKSON
Metro in Vancouver

Former B.C. premier and MP Ujjal Dosanjh added his voice to the outrage over the brutal gang-rape and murder in India, tweeting that men who can't control their penises should have them removed.

Dosanjh sent a series of tweets calling for castration Friday to make a point about how "ludicrous" it is to blame rape on women's clothing choices.

"Re Delhi gang rape some say women shud (sic) dress 'appropriately'. I say if men can not control penises, have them removed," Dosanjh said on Twitter.

Ujjal Dosanjh THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Dosanjh deliberately used the extreme language to highlight the absurdity of blaming a woman if she is raped, but he doesn't actually support forcible castration or the death penalty, he said.

"It was revolting to hear people in different parts of the world and different parts of India talking about how women can avoid rape if they dress differently or don't go out late at night," he said. "Rape is perpetrated by men — it's not something that a woman ever invites upon herself."

Gang rape in India

- Dosanjh's comments came days after a 23-year-old medical student, raped by six men in Delhi on her way home from the movies, died from extensive organ and brain injuries.
- Thousands have taken to India's streets in protest since the rape, which led to murder charges against five men.

To Russia, with love and money

French actor Gerard Depardieu, left, greets Russian President Vladimir Putin after his arrival Saturday at the president's residence in Sochi, the host city of the 2014 Winter Olympics. Depardieu has received a Russian passport after flying to Russia for a late-night dinner with Putin. Depardieu sought Russian citizenship as part of his battle against a proposed super-tax on millionaires in France, and Putin granted his request last week.

MIKHAIL KLIMENTYEV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Request for troops?

African Union chair to meet with Harper

The head of the African Union is set to visit Ottawa this week. Thomas Boni Yayi's meeting with Prime Minister Stephen Harper could bring a request for Canadian troops to be involved in an international mission in Mali.

The United Nations Security Council backed a proposal in December to send an African-led force of 3,300 soldiers into the country. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alleged assault

Police look for suspects after cabbie robbed

Police in St. Thomas are looking for two suspects after a female taxi driver was assaulted, robbed and left tied to playground equipment early Sunday.

Investigators say the driver was called to a park for a fare around 3:15 a.m. and was approached by two males wearing dark clothing and balaclavas.

She was taken to hospital for minor facial wounds and has since been released.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Coast Guard

U.S. reviews B.C. oil-export plans

Concerns in the U.S. over oil-tanker traffic from British Columbia have spurred a U.S. Coast Guard review of proposed increases in Canadian oil exports.

A legislative amendment signed into law by U.S. President Barack Obama a few weeks ago gives the U.S. marine-safety agency six months to conduct a risk assessment of the planned expansion of oil-pipeline capacity to the West Coast.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Troubled program

Naval ships under scrutiny

The navy's long-delayed joint support-ship program is expected to come under the political microscope within weeks in what is likely another defence-equipment embarrassment for the Harper government.

The parliamentary budget officer is poised to release his findings once MPs return from their Christmas break.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Iran seeks 'special' investigation into death of jailed blogger

Sattar Beheshti.
Parliament group in Iran looks for answers after death of blogger causes controversy over power of web watchers

A powerful group in Iran's parliament called Sunday for expanded investigations into the death of a jailed blogger in a case that has already brought down the chief of the Internet-monitoring police and opened rare public debates over the growing powers of the country's web watchers.

While the blogger, Sattar Beheshti, was not the first suspected opposition activist to die in Iranian custody — and bring international condemnation on Iran — the fallout since November has taken an added toll by exposing apparent conflicts between regular security networks and the widening clout of the cyber-police.

Iran's leaders have placed a top priority on efforts to stamp out online dissent and fight the so-called "soft war" against perceived Western influence via the Internet. The web remains highly filtered in Iran, but blocks are often bypassed by the country's educated and tech-savvy population.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Death

The death of Sattar Beheshti has put Iran's Internet-monitoring police under scrutiny.

- **Investigation.** A statement read Sunday on behalf of the parliament's Committee on National Security and Foreign Policy called for a "special" investigation into the death.
- **Another probe?** It was not immediately clear what kind of added probe could occur since prosecutors already have opened an investigation into the case.

Iranians surf the web in an Internet café at a shopping centre in central Tehran on Sunday. Iran's leaders have placed a top priority on efforts to stamp out online dissent. VAHID SALEMI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New software

Iran cracking down on social networking

Iran's police chief says the Islamic Republic is developing new software to control social-networking sites.

Gen. Esmail Ahmadi Moghadam was quoted in Iranian newspapers Saturday as saying the new software will prevent Iranians from being exposed to malicious content online while allowing users to enjoy the benefits of the Internet. He did not say when the software would be introduced.

Moghadam also did not specify which social-networking sites would be affected, but both Facebook and Twitter are popular in Iran. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Official name now 'State of Palestine': Abbas

Name change. Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas orders Palestinian Authority officially changed to 'State of Palestine' after United Nations upgrade

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas
ABED AL HASHLAMOUN/POOL/GETTY IMAGES FILE

The Palestinian president has ordered his government to officially change the name of the Palestinian Authority to "State of Palestine."

The move follows the November decision by the United Nations to upgrade the Palestinians' status to that of a "non-member observer state."

President Mahmoud Abbas said Sunday that all official Palestinian stamps, stationery and documents will now bear the new name.

A statement from his office said the move was aimed at enhancing Palestinian "sovereignty on the ground" and was a step on the way to "real independence." Israel still controls most of the West Bank.

Israel objected to the Palestinian statehood bid at the UN, calling it a unilateral step aimed at bypassing direct peace negotiations. Abbas denied that.

Israel had no comment Sunday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

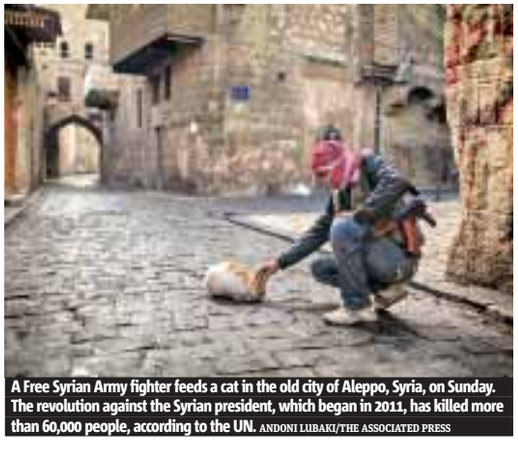
Rare speech. Assad rules out peace talks with 'murderous criminals'

A defiant Syrian President Bashar Assad rallied a chanting and cheering crowd Sunday to fight the uprising against his authoritarian rule, dismissing any chance of dialogue with "murderous criminals" that he blames for nearly two years of violence that has left 60,000 dead.

In his first public speech in six months, Assad laid out terms for a peace plan that keeps himself in power, ignoring international demands to step down and pledging to continue the battle "as long as there is one terrorist left" in Syria.

"What we started will not stop," he said, standing at a lectern on stage at the regal Opera House in central Damascus — a sign by the besieged leader that he sees no need to hide or compromise, even with the violent civil war closing in on his seat of power in the capital.

The theatre was packed with his supporters who interrupted the speech with applause, cheers and occasional fist-waving chants, including "God, Bashar and Syria!"
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


A Free Syrian Army fighter feeds a cat in the old city of Aleppo, Syria, on Sunday. The revolution against the Syrian president, which began in 2011, has killed more than 60,000 people, according to the UN. ANDONI LUBAKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kuwait

Activist gets 2-year sentence for Twitter 'insult'

Kuwaiti media say a social-media activist has been sentenced to two years in prison for a Twitter post deemed insulting to the Gulf nation's ruler.

Authorities across the Western-allied Gulf Arab states have sharply increased crackdowns on perceived dissent among bloggers and others using social media.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anti-apartheid leader

Mandela has recovered from ailments: Zuma

South African anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela has recovered from his recent lung infection and a surgical procedure to remove gallstones, according to an announcement Sunday by President Jacob Zuma.

Doctors say that Mandela, 94, has made "steady progress and that clinically he continues to improve," according to a statement issued by Zuma's office.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Plastic $20 bill sticks in vending industry's craw

Dispensing dispute. Machine owners say Bank of Canada didn't give them enough lead time to convert scanners

Thousands of vending machines still can't digest those plastic $20 bank notes the government released two months ago, with machine owners blaming the Bank of Canada for their problems.

As many as half a million machines that scan bank notes needed reprogramming to accept the radically redesigned $20 bills, the most popular denomination in Canada.

Some 145 million polymer $20 notes have been put into circulation since Nov. 7, one of a series of new plastic notes intended to thwart counterfeiters and last much longer than their paper-cotton predecessors.

Kim Lockie has been converting his 1,200 machines in Fort McMurray, Alta., full-time for two months, but still has about 300 to go.

Quoted

"The Bank of Canada didn't really even talk to us in the last three years. It seems like they have no desire to work with us.... Tough luck for our industry."

Kim Lockie, an official with the Canadian Automatic Merchandising Association

"I would think less than half the machines in Canada would accept this bill right now," says Lockie, an official with the Canadian Automatic Merchandising Association. "As a small business, I am losing money."

Lockie blames the Bank of Canada for failing to heed three years of warnings from owners that they needed a long lead time to recalibrate their vending machines before the official release of the new bills.

The Bank of Canada rejects the criticisms, saying its officials have worked closely with the sector. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Get a piece of the Fab Four on film

Auctioneer Paul Fairweather holds four colour transparencies of The Beatles taken during their first tour of the USA in 1964. The rare colour transparencies, taken by Dr. Robert Beck, are to be sold along with the copyright at Omega Auctions in Stockport, England, in a special Beatles memorabilia auction in March 2013. The unpublished collection of 65 slides contains many stage shots. DAVE THOMPSON/PA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hostess bankruptcy

Bidders line up for Wonder Bread

The makers of Thomas' English muffins and Tastykake snacks are emerging as two of the bidders for Wonder Bread and other Hostess bread brands as the company tries to sell off its assets under bankruptcy-court oversight, a newspaper reported Saturday.

The Wall Street Journal said Hostess Brands Inc. could reveal as early as next week that Flowers Foods Inc. and Grupo Bimbo SAB are in discussions to acquire its bread brands. The report said the brands could command $350 million US.

Hostess, which is based in Irving, Texas, announced in November that it was shutting down its business and selling its bread, snacks and cakes brands along with its 33 bakeries and other operations. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alaska. Shell will attempt to tow stuck drill ship

Royal Dutch Shell PLC will try to move its grounded drill ship out of the worst of the North Pacific's fury with a towing attempt when conditions allow.

Shell incident commander Sean Churchfield said at a news conference Saturday that naval architects have pronounced the Kulluk fit to be towed. The attempt will depend on weather, tides and readiness, he said.

"I can't offer you firm times. Right now, the preparation for the tow depends on the weather and operational constraints," Churchfield said. "We will be looking to move the vessel as soon as we are ready and able."

If the drill ship can be pulled from the rocks off Sitkalidak Island, it will be towed 48 kilometres to shelter in Kodiak Island's Kiliuda Bay.

The Kulluk is a circular barge with a reinforced steel hull that allows it to operate in ice. One of two Shell ships that drilled last year in the Arctic Ocean, it has a 48-metre derrick rising from its centre and no propulsion system of its own. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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• Improves Digestion
• Reduces Risk of Chronic Health Conditions
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CleanseSMART is a 30 day advanced cleanse that deeply detoxifies the whole body. CleanseSMART is designed to work regardless of diet or lifestyle.
Rapid Cleanse is a 7 day cleanse that is perfect if you need results quickly or if you would like to cleanse on a more regular basis.
TESTIMONIAL
After suffering from fatigue, headaches and chronic constipation, I did a cleanse and it changed my life. That was 7 years ago and I still cleanse 2-3 times per year. I have tried other cleanses but I always come back to Renew Life cleanses. They just WORK! Evelyn P. 2012-05-04.
Look For Renew Life Products At Your Local Health Food Store Or Wherever Natural Health Products Are Sold. To Find A Store Near You Visit WWW.RENEWLIFE.CA Or Call 1-800-485-0960 Ext 3
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* Limit one coupon per purchase. Coupon expires February 28th, 2013.

LORD LOVE A PUCK! IT'S BACK

URBAN COMPASS
Paul Sullivan
saskatoon@metronews.ca

The darkest hour is just before dawn. And, boy, was it dark.

Team Canada had just finished out of the medals at the world juniors for the first time since 1998, and the long hockeyless winter stretched before us.

Fans tried to throw their hockey jerseys onto the bonfire of vengeance, but they'd had them on so long, they couldn't get them off.

Tired of insulting NHL commissioner Gary Bettman or reporting on another fourth-line winger signed to play in the Bosnian semi-pro league, hockey journalists wandered around the sports beat trying to write about curling or cross-country skiing, but it wasn't pretty.

Then, just in time to salvage a 48- to 50-game season, the NHL and the NHL Players Association struck a deal.

There will be hockey after all. Lucky 2013.

Going into the weekend, the prospect seemed more remote than springtime and now the nearest game could come as early as Jan. 19 in Winnipeg, with the Jets facing off against the New Jersey Devils.

Fickle fandom

Don't worry — no one took you seriously when you swore off hockey for life and laid a curse on the billionaires and millionaires — also known as team owners and players — who ruined your life.

Fire up the truck and get ready for a road trip. Don't worry — no one took you seriously when you swore off hockey for life and laid a curse on the billionaires and millionaires — also known as team owners and players — who ruined your life.

Of course, the 10-year agreement signed yesterday will be scrutinized more intently than the Dead Sea Scrolls, but what do you care? After a 113-day lockout, the actual agreement comes as an anti-climax. Rest assured that Prairie boys blessed with an inexplicable talent for pushing a puck around a frozen surface will continue to become instant multi-millionaires.

The rest of us will continue to pay a king's ransom to sit in the nosebleed section and enjoy a warm beer and cold hot dog and then line up to go the bathroom, missing the winning goal.

No matter how much it abuses the fans, the NHL is a winning formula, at least in places where it snows. Just ask Vancouver Canucks owner Francesco Aquilini, for example, whose string of sellouts will resume unbroken this month at 407 games. It started in 2002 and has already survived one allegedly catastrophic labour dispute (in 2004-05), so there's no reason to expect a much-threatened boycott will amount to anything.

And when the Jets (or the Oilers or the Flames or even the Canucks) make the playoffs sometime next summer, no one will care about the quality of the beverages or that the season was cut in half or that Gary Bettman is the worst thing to happen to hockey since the Fox Network's lurid glowing puck.

All they'll care about is hockey, glorious hockey.

Until the next lockout, scheduled for some time in 2022.

Lupine loner

My, what a big following you have, Mr. Wolf

He doesn't like busy Interstate 5 or eating cattle, at least so far. He gets along with his distant cousins the coyotes, likes to swim and roams a lot — an awful lot — around the northernmost reaches of California.

A week or so ago, California's lone grey wolf passed his one-year anniversary as a transplant resident with the same technical accoutrements some people possess: a Twitter account and an online site about his travels.

"What strikes me about him is that when I talk to the general public, they show remarkable knowledge about his movements, much more than some world events," said Richard Callas, a senior environmental scientist with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

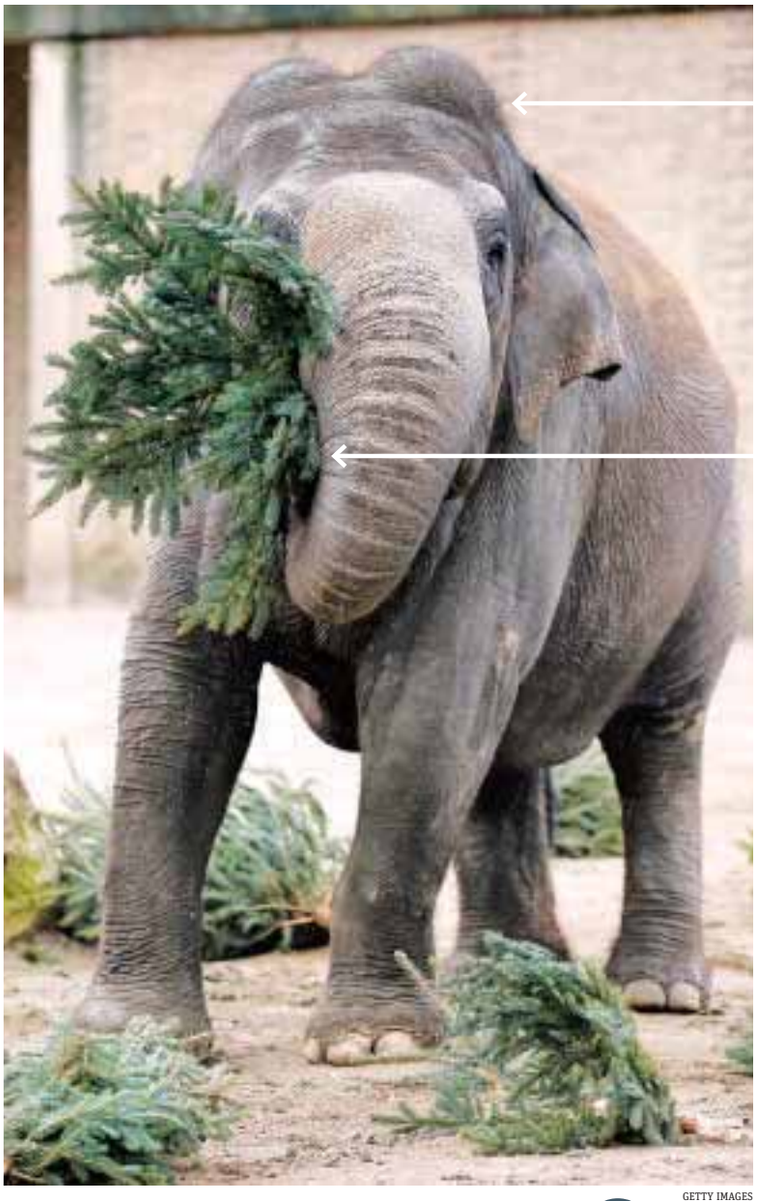
"No matter how you feel about wolves, when you see one it's amazing," he added.

California's wolf trotted 1,600 kilometres from northeast Oregon to California, then more than 3,200 kilometres since arriving.

Scientists speculate he's looking for a mate or a new pack, though they know both prospects are remote.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

He's got room for leftovers!



GETTY IMAGES

Post-seasonal feast

Elephants eat up Christmas trees

Elephants at the Berlin Zoo finally got their trunks on Christmas dinner: A clump of unsold pine trees. Pachyderms young and old played with the plants Friday, before devouring them after catching the trees' strong smell. One elephant ate more than 150 kilograms of trees in one sitting. METRO WORLD NEWS

Gentle diners

"They don't just poke the tree into their mouths.... They gently pluck the branches."

Berlin Zoo elephant keeper Ragnar Kuehne

Pine-tuned recycling

MissileToe rocket is a real cracker

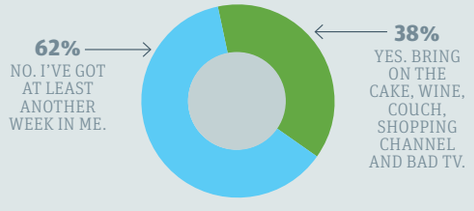
Feeding elephants is not the only way to get rid of unwanted festive trees. A team of U.S. inventors recycled a Christmas tree by turning it into a rocket. The XMS MissileToe comprises one tree, 32 rocket engines powered by a car battery, baubles and a star ornament. METRO WORLD NEWS

A screen grab of the Christmas tree rocket. YOUTUBE/ROCKETCHRISTMASTREE

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Have you already given up on your New Year's resolution?



Twitter

@DarrenSproat:
I see #skpoli is as interesting as ever... We need a new SaskLogo crown corporation, don't we?

@vaness_saam:
Missing the country home #saskatchewan #summer2013

@tallboysdad:
Had a great 12k ski after mass this morning, sweet day in #yxe #birkietraining #lovethesnow

@jeremywdean:
Awesome prod'n of @KingLearYXE last night @persephonethea. A must see for #YXE. Stratford talent in @skye_brandon as former local returns.

@G_Stafford:
As much as I enjoyed my vacation, coming home to Canada is the best feeling. Nice "welcome home" by the folks at Saskatoon Airport. #YXE

metro

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SCENE 2

Howes teams with Murdoch for a Churchill whodunit

Guest appearance.
Downton Abbey actor plays a pre-PM Winnie who finds himself in trouble in Toronto

ANNE BRODIE
scene@metronews.ca

Thomas Howes, left, guest stars on Murdoch Mysteries next Monday. SHANE MAHOOD

Watch

Murdoch Mysteries premieres on CBC Television tonight. The episode featuring Thomas Howes airs Monday, Jan. 14 at 9 p.m.

Downton Abbey's new season is now airing Sunday nights on PBS. Vision is currently airing Season 1 on Wednesdays. It will air Season 2 starting in February and Season 3 in April.

Winston Churchill in Toronto under arrest for murder following a blind, drunken night on the town? Could it be? He often visited the city, which pays tribute to him in school names, memorials, statues and academic societies.

Ryerson's Life Institute offers courses on his remarkable life. CBC's Murdoch Mysteries has him walking our streets once again, played by another familiar Englishman: Thomas Howes, Downton Abbey's ill-fated second footman William Mason. But murder? We visited Howes on the north Toronto set:

What kind of man is your Churchill?
Churchill is a young man, very active, tall and he's just had the Battle of Omdurman and the war of the Boers and it's been a very active time in his life. We start in 1909 when he's doing these lecture tours in Britain and the States and Toronto. And that's where we find him, with Murdoch. It's turning into the new century, 1900, described as The Hangover of the 1900s.

He has no memory of the night before. But we find him drugged in this hotel room with the dead body of his best friend and he goes around with Murdoch trying to recall the memories he's lost and recall whodunit because it looks like it could be him. So he's trying to piece together the answer to the mystery.

You are covered in (fake) blood as we speak. Doesn't look good for Churchill.
Well that you'll have to wait to find out why because it could be he killed this guy or it might be some other reason, but he's got the fellow's blood all over his hands.

I understand there was some drunken swordplay.
We had a great day yesterday (on Murdoch) because Emmanuel, who plays Al, and I wanted to do our sword fighting scene ourselves.

We didn't think we'd be allowed to but we were. They got shots with professionals doing some key bits of the sword fighting, but everything else they let us do ourselves! There is going to be a lot of us in the thick of it.

Ever since drama school, I've been falling down trap doors, hanging on ropes, football, which I'm no good at, running around the trenches with guns and now sword-fighting. But I love all that. I really do. I relish it. I always get the stunts. They always give me stuff that should be done by dashing young hero types, but they love to see me in those situations.

Downton Abbey's given you a big career boost. How has it changed things?
It has. I have credits before this, but they were all stage. I wasn't sure if I would ever do anything on telly, but Downton came along and recently it's all been screen work. I'm juggling both at the moment. It did me a huge favour. A lot of the offers I get now are just off the back of that and I probably only got Murdoch Mysteries because of Downton, because it's quite popular here too. It was big in Britain and huge in the U.S. and here.

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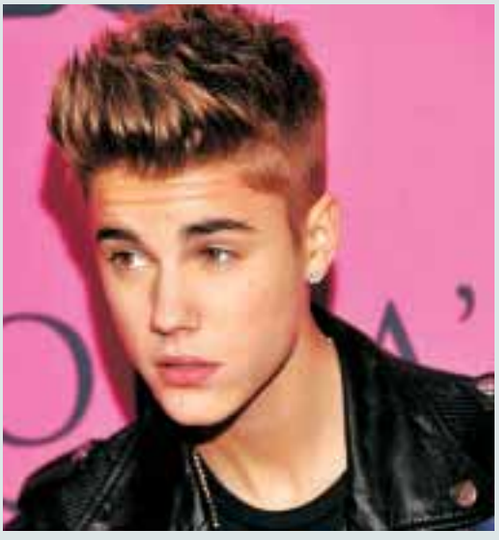
METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Celebrities who have had a rough start to 2013

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca



January is shaping up to be a bad month for these stars.

Is it the weather? The new year? Holiday hangovers? Seasonal effective disorder? Whatever it is, something is happening this month with celebrities and the law.

Over the weekend, TMZ.com posted photos of Justin Bieber smoking what appears to be marijuana. But the singer is trying to take the controversy in stride.

"Everyday growing and learning. Trying to be better. (You) get knocked down, (you) get up," Bieber posted to his fans on Twitter. "Back on tour tomorrow. Ready to see (you) all smile. Time to do what I'm supposed to be doing. Performing."

Josh Brolin, who is no stranger to getting into trouble in bars while drinking, was arrested at 11:30 p.m. on Jan. 1 for public intoxication outside a Santa Monica, Calif., bar, according to E! News.

"He was intoxicated and unable to care for himself," a police spokesman says. "He was booked and released with no further action pending." If his mugshot is any indication, Brolin wasn't too thrilled about the ordeal.

Bethenny Frankel filed for divorce from her husband, Jason Hoppy, in New York City last week. The former Housewife took to Twitter about the split.

"To those of you who are being supportive: thank you. To those of you who are judging: I totally get it."

Criminal Minds and Dharma & Greg star Thomas Gibson was arrested Sunday morning for suspicion of a DUI, TMZ reports.

Gibson attempted to drive through a part of downtown Los Angeles that had been sectioned off for a half marathon; he was told he couldn't drive through, but he did anyway.

None to happy about being ignored, the police caught up with him and smelled booze in the car. The actor refused to take a breathalyzer test, but was arrested on suspicion of DUI anyway and taken into custody.

Jessica Chastain stars in Zero Dark Thirty.

Chastain in love with movies, not movie stars

As Zero Dark Thirty star Jessica Chastain's fame increases, don't expect her to become part of a Hollywood couple.

"I have dated an actor before, at Juilliard, but since then, I've only been on a couple of dates with one and I was so freaked out someone was going to take a picture of us, because they were famous," she tells InStyle.

Of course, it wasn't just the potential for paparazzi that got to her.

"I realized I wanted just to be able to hang out with someone, and I didn't want to talk about the business, first of all," she says.

"I love movies. But I love talking about them like when I was 15 years old. I'm a film fan, but I don't want to talk about auditions or what movie I'm gonna do. I find that so boring."

Russell Crowe unfazed by Lambert's criticism

Russell Crowe knows how to handle criticism, especially when it comes to his singing in Les Miserables.

Singer Adam Lambert took to Twitter to complain about the film, posting that it "suffered massively (because of) great actors pretending to be singers."

But apparently there are no hard feelings, as Crowe himself posted as much to Twitter.

"I don't disagree with Adam. Sure it could have been sweetened, (director Tom) Hooper wanted it raw and real, that's how it was."

Russell Crowe.

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Mommy trend

Ultrasound party

It seems we're always on the lookout for a novel way to celebrate the arrival of a baby — the latest of which is the ultrasound party. Your family and friends huddle around, drinks in hand, while the mom-to-be gets her belly squirted with jelly by the ultrasound tech.

But though the trend is gaining momentum, it's not for everyone. And, of course, there are unanticipated risks. Say the machine fails to detect a fetal heartbeat? After all, the whole purpose of ultrasounds is to detect abnormalities—they weren't created for the sake of entertainment.

JULIE M. GREEN OF YUMMYMUMMYCLUB.CA

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- **Uh oh.** Mommy's fridge and your diaper drawer are running on empty, which means it's time for the dreaded trip to the local supermarket. Follow along with the comedic (mis)adventures of mommyhood with Reasons Mommy Drinks online at metronews.ca/voices.

I am a beautiful princess...

Daddy-daughter time. One father explains why tiaras and fairy wings are teaching his daughter a very important life lesson

JOE BOUGHNER
Metro World News

One dad is using dress-up time with his daughter to teach her acceptance. ISTOCK

Joe Boughner, who plays dress-up with his daughter. SUBMITTED

Why, yes, I am a beautiful princess. Thank you for noticing.

The list of reasons to explain how I found myself dancing around the living room, sporting fairy wings, a tiara and a wand the other night is a long and varied one. My willingness to do almost anything to make my daughter laugh is, admittedly, chief among them. My desire to seize upon any opportunity to reinforce the importance of sharing is too (we've been struggling with sharing lately, so when she offered to share her tiara, who was I to say no?).

In fact, if I'm being honest, the chance to engage in a little gender-bending play, thus normalizing the sight of a man doing a typically girly thing, was nowhere near the top of my mind as we bounced and laughed and sang along to Toopy and Binoo Christmas carols. But the more I think about stuff like this, the more important it seems.

It seems — in a lot of ways — girls have it easier when it comes to going against gender norms. Girls doing "boy" things — playing in the dirt, enjoying science, etc. — are a common sight these days. Boys doing "girl" things, though? That's another story.

So, while we may have gotten off the hook with our daughter in this respect (don't worry, there are plenty of other reasons to be terrified of parenting a girl instead of a boy), I still feel something of an obligation to make sure that my daughter isn't part of the problem, should a boy in her class or peer group be inclined to wear nail polish or take ballet.

My kid is smart and sweet and sensitive, but, then again, so was I. And even if I didn't grow up picking on and teasing the boy who took dance or the other one who did gymnastics, I wasn't really rushing to their defence or even hanging out with them, either. Because, to me, it was just weird. Picking dance over hockey was weird. Picking gymnastics over basketball was weird.

I didn't accept it, I tolerated it. Frankly, that's not enough. Tolerance suggests there's something outside the norm that one has to tolerate. I don't want my daughter to tolerate this sort of thing, I want her to grow up oblivious as to why something as inconsequential as a boy wanting to wear a dress would ever even be an issue to anyone.

I'm not delusional here. I don't for a second believe that my willingness to wear fairy wings and a tiara will magically erase stupid biases and preconceived notions of appropriate play for boys and girls for an entire generation. Hell, I don't even believe it will have that effect on my daughter. There are still way too many people and products out there reinforcing gender expectations.

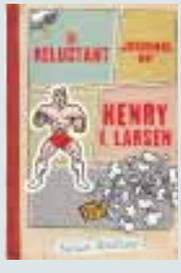
But I do believe that every little bit helps. So, if my kid asks me to wear a tiara, I'll wear the tiara.

And, frankly, I think I pull it off. **YUMMYMUMMYCLUB.CA IS AN ONLINE RESOURCE TO HELP BUSY WOMEN SURVIVE MOTHERHOOD**

Two books that tackle the dark side of childhood

It takes guts for an adult writer to convey real emotions and issues from a kid's perspective. The Reluctant Diary of Henry K. Larsen and Wonder by R.J. Palacio are two gutsy, powerful books that will resonate with young adults. These books speak the truth about tween and teenage life. Rather than sugarcoat difficult issues, the writers use insight and dark humour to spark interest. After my daughter read one of the books, we had a great discussion. It reminded me that the most difficult topics can make great conversation, especially when they lie safely between the covers of a book. **RUTH SPIVK OF YUMMYMUMMYCLUB.CA**

The Reluctant Journal of Henry



Winner of the Governor General's Literary Awards, 2012. After "it" happened, 13-year-old Henry's life would never be the same. "When people find out you're related to a guy who committed murder/suicide, they can never treat you the same way ever again. They can't help thinking that, at any moment, you could go postal, too." Henry's struggle to recover a sense of normalcy after his brother's crime and death was deeply moving, but not sappy. Author Susan Nielsen's exploration into the dynamic of bullies and victims was heart-wrenching. (Ages: 11 and up.)

Wonder

"If I found a magic lamp and I could have one wish, I would wish that I had a normal face that no one ever noticed at all." August's facial deformities have kept him from going to school, but that's about to change. How much courage will it take to be different among ordinary kids? Maybe August isn't so different after all, but it won't be easy convincing others not to judge a boy by his face. An uplifting story about courage, friendship, and the power to overcome adversity. "Be extraordinary in an ordinary world." (Ages: nine and up.)

Tasty layers of mushrooms, spinach and sausage in strata

Also called a "wife saver" (or a "husband saver" in some families), this make-ahead dish is a great way to start the morning. Old Canadian Cheddar, eggs and crusty sourdough are the perfect backdrop to mushrooms, spinach and crumbled sausage. It's gourmet breakfast, all in one dish.

Serves six to eight. THE CANADIAN PRESS HANDOUT

Ingredients

- 1 tsp (5 ml) butter
- 12 oz (400 g) Italian sausages (about 3), casing removed and roughly chopped
- 1 lb (500 g) mixed wild mushrooms, stems removed and sliced
- 8 green onions, white part only, thinly sliced (1/4 cup/60 ml)
- 3 cups (750 ml) lightly packed fresh baby spinach
- 4 large slices (1/2-inch/1 cm thick) day-old sourdough bread
- 6 eggs
- 3 cups (750 ml) milk
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt and pepper
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) Worcestershire sauce
- Dash hot pepper sauce
- 2 cups (500 ml) shredded old Canadian cheddar cheese

1. Butter a 13 x 9-inch (3 L) glass baking dish and set aside.

2. In skillet, melt butter over medium heat. Add sausage and fry, breaking up bits with a wooden spoon for about 5 minutes or until lightly browned and beginning to cook through. Spoon off any excess fat. Add mushrooms and cook, stirring occasionally, 10 minutes or until soft and beginning to brown and sausage is no longer pink. Add onions and spinach and stir until everything is mixed and glossy. Remove pan from heat and let cool slightly.

3. Layer bread slices over bottom of dish. Spoon sausage mixture over bread. In a blender, combine eggs, milk, salt, pepper, Worcestershire, and hot pepper sauce and blend until smooth. Pour mixture evenly over sausage mixture. Top with Canadian cheddar cheese. Cover dish with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 8 to 12 hours.

4. When ready to serve, preheat oven to 350 F (180 C). Uncover dish and bake strata for 50 to 60 minutes, or until puffed and top is crispy and golden. Let stand for 10 minutes before serving.

DAIRYGOODNESS.CA

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Soul-warming soup is just the thing for the winter blues. Tim Hortons has a delicious variety, but some of the options come packed with calories, fat and sodium.

Tim Hortons Chili

290 calories/ 16 g fat/ 1,310 mg sodium
Chili can vary greatly in nutrients. The fat comes from fattier beef and oil. The salt is close to your day's intake and comes from canned beans and canned tomatoes.

Equivalent

One Tim Hortons Chili is equal in sodium to almost 33 cups of Kernel's original Butter Salt Popcorn.

Tim Hortons Cream of Mushroom

150 calories/ 3 g fat/ 740 mg sodium
It's shocking that a creamy soup would have so little calories and fat. This tells you that fortunately more mushrooms are used.

Mushroom, Spinach Frittata. Eat warm or cold

1. Heat oven to 180 C (350 F). Prepare a 2-l (8-cup) casserole dish (or 20 by 20 cm/8 by 8 inch) with vegetable oil spray.

2. In a large skillet over medium, heat oil; add shallots and sauté until soft, about 3 minutes. Add mushrooms and sauté another 3 minutes. Add spinach and sauté another 2 minutes; set aside to cool.

3. Meanwhile, in a large bowl, beat eggs; stir in cheese, if using, and salt and pepper. Add cooled vegetable mixture and stir until mixed. Pour mixture into casserole and bake for about 30 minutes or until top is lightly browned. Let stand for 10 minutes before cutting. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ ROSIE SCHWARTZ FOR GOLDEN D EGGS

Ingredients

- 15 ml (1 tbsp) extra-virgin olive oil
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) finely chopped shallots
- 500 ml (2 cups) sliced mushrooms
- 500 ml (2 cups) chopped fresh spinach
- 6 eggs
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) freshly grated Parmesan cheese (optional)
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) salt
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) freshly ground pepper

Sink your teeth into mushrooms

Foccacia is an Italian flatbread-like pizza, but without the sauce and with thicker dough. It's ideal for snacks or you can serve it along with soups or salads.

For even more flavour, crumble goat cheese on top of the baked foccacia and return it to the warm oven just to melt. Use herb or spiced flavoured oil to drizzle on as desired.

1. Lightly grease a baking sheet and place dough on it; with floured hands press out dough to a 28-by-18-cm (11-by-7-inch) oval. Brush with 10 ml (2 tsp) of the oil and let rise in a warm place for 45 to 60 minutes. (To create a warm place for dough to rise, turn oven on to 100 C/200 F for 1 minute; then turn off and place dough in warm oven.)

2. Meanwhile, in a large skillet, heat remaining oil; sauté mushrooms and onion for 4 minutes or until moisture has evaporated. Add oregano and garlic and cook for 1 more minute; let cool slightly.

3. With thumb or end of wooden spoon, make dimpled surface on foccacia; top with mushroom mixture, pressing lightly into dough. Top with olives, if using, black pepper and Parmesan.

4. Bake in a 200 C (400 F) oven for 20 to 25 minutes or until bottom is lightly browned and crisp. Let cool slightly on wire rack. Cut in wedges or slices to serve.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/MUSHROOMS CANADA, MUSHROOMS.CA

Ingredients

- 500 g (1 lb) pizza dough or frozen bread dough, thawed
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) olive oil
- 375 ml (3/4 lb) fresh mushrooms, thinly sliced
- 250 ml (1 cup) thinly sliced red or sweet onion
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) dried oregano
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 8 black olives, pitted and sliced (optional)
- Coarsely ground black pepper, to taste
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) grated Parmesan

This recipes makes 12 pieces. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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The In-Credibility Factor

Name: Sandra Milligan
City: Toronto
Age: 37
Occupation: Founder of Boxx Cosmetics

THE IN-CREDIBILITY FACTOR
Teresa Kruze
life@metronews.ca

A car crash at the age of 19 ended Sandra Milligan's equestrian pursuits and her dream of becoming a veterinarian. Turning to a career in the beauty industry, Sandra opened up a successful salon and recently launched a new makeup line called Boxx Cosmetics. Noticing there was a gap in the marketplace, Sandra created a cosmetic line of multi-use products that are infused with skin care ingredients. After eight years of research and development, this beauty entrepreneur is watching her new company grow.

I knew I was on my way when ... I saw my products on the first shelves and in online retail stores. My vision was so clear and it translated how I always envisioned it would. I've learned beauty is a personal thing and everyone sees themselves differently. I like that I can help women see what they find beautiful about themselves and then enhance their ability to do it for themselves on a daily basis.

Action Plan

Believe in yourself and create a clear plan on how to execute your strategy

There will always be unexpected hurdles but that's exactly what they are. Go over one at a time and you will learn immensely from the right or wrong decisions.

Trust your gut reaction if you need to make a quick decision

People love to give opinions and speak about their own experiences. Only you will know what is right for you and your growing company. No one knows it like you do.

Never give up

The road gets far worse than you ever imagined before it gets better — but it will!

Sandra Milligan founded Boxx Cosmetics after a car crash ended her equestrian dreams. PROVIDED

Dragon puts his two cents on paper

The O'Leary exchange of advice. Canadian business dynamo Kevin O'Leary pens candid book on managing pennies for all ages

As a lead dragon of CBC's Dragon's Den and ABC's Shark Tank, Kevin O'Leary's success with money management and in business is legendary. But he's made mistakes along the way too.

In his new book, The Cold Hard Truth About Men, Women and Money, the dragon dishes to all generations about his errors and triumphs and mentors his readers on making money and growing it faster to achieve financial freedom.

Here are two excerpts from the recently released book, both aimed at helping young adults get on their way to a monetary win:

On education and part-time work:
"Your education can be the best investment you'll ever make, or the worst one. It's an expensive and time-consuming undertaking. And make no mistake — it is an investment. It's not a break between childhood and adulthood, or an opportunity to take it easy before real life kicks in. Every dollar you spend on post-secondary education has to be viewed in terms of its financial return. Getting smart costs money, so don't be a dummy.

"I'm going to sound like an old guy here, but when I was in school, kids worked. They didn't spend four to six hours a night on Facebook or playing video games. They worked in bars and restaurants near the campus and they lived with a pile of roommates, some sleeping on a cot in the hallway.

"That's just how it was. That's how you saved a buck. I monetized my shuffleboard hobby and made a killing playing three nights a week against other players in local pubs. Even if you have to lighten your study load and graduate in five rather than four years, it's better to do that than accumulate a massive debt."

Take this advice to the bank

"Every dollar you spend on post-secondary education has to be viewed in terms of its financial return. Getting smart costs money, so don't be a dummy."

Kevin O'Leary
Cold Hard Truth About Men, Women and Money

On business, savings and debt:
"I once met a man from Winnipeg. After a few minutes of chatting, I learned that this old, unkempt man owned huge swaths of real estate! This is a man who arrived in Canada with a fistful of papers, a few coins, and who today is a multimillionaire. It blew my mind and I had to get his story.

"The first building he bought was a walk-up. He had saved money and was able to make a 10 per cent down payment. Then he struck a bargain with the bank. In exchange for buying and fixing up this decrepit building, he wanted to pay down as much principal as possible every quarter. The bank, thinking he would never be able to tackle that much, agreed. For the next five years, this man went to war against his mortgage.

"'We ate beans,' he said. 'Lots of them. No meat. Beans. For years.' He burst out laughing. But what was his true secret? Market timing? Good money management? Sure. But I think his real secret was: Beans now, steak later. If you have a mortgage, you have debt, and when you have debt, you don't get to have steak. The steak — the reward — comes later. That's the kind of man I admire." METRO

Today, Kevin O'Leary is the chairman of O'Leary Funds, a $1.7 billion mutual fund company. AARON HARRIS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

About the author

Kevin O'Leary is one of North America's most successful business entrepreneurs

- Kevin founded and built Softkey (later The Learning Company), the global leader in educational kids' software, and negotiated its sale to Mattel for $4.2 billion in 1999.
- Since then, he has successfully co-founded, funded, and sold numerous companies in a range of industries, including storage, entertainment and finance.

NHLers in hurry-up mode with sprint of season ahead

Condensed schedule. Players will have little time to prepare for 48-50-game campaign

The clock is already ticking for NHL players preparing to return to the ice.

With the end to the lockout pending, there will only be time for a brief training camp before a compressed schedule of 48 or 50 games.

The next few weeks will quickly show whether players who haven't played a competitive game since last spring are ready for the rigours of a regular season.

"I don't think it'll be too tough," said Montreal Canadiens forward Travis Moen. "Guys are professionals, so you should have been keeping yourself in decent shape all this time.

"We'll have some time to skate before, and then you make the best of it."

The NHL and the players reached a tentative agreement early Sunday morning, but no details on how many games each team would play or when the season would begin were released.

There may be a wide disparity in game-readiness when the season does finally get underway.

About 200 players got game action skating for European clubs during the lockout, and most teams sent a few of their younger players to the AHL.

But most, like Montreal captain Brian Gionta, did their best to stay fit and keep their skills sharp by skating a few times a week in small groups.

"Their timing and game-readiness would be there for sure," he said of those who played during the lockout. "It'll take a few games to get caught up, but that's the reality of where we're at."

A big concern will be staying healthy.

Last season in the NBA, teams played a 66-game schedule after a short training camp. Some, including commissioner David Stern, disputed that an increase in injuries was the result of the lockout.

The shortened NHL schedule will have teams averaging more than 3.5 games per week.

"It's one of the more obvious things that might happen, especially groins, hip flexors, that sort of thing," said Vancouver Canucks forward Chris Higgins. "I think you'll see some teams with troubles with that early on."

His teammate Manny Malhotra said even that may not be enough.

"Watching the NBA last year try to squeeze in as many games as possible, it's very taxing on the body," said Malhotra. "(Hockey) is obviously a lot more physical game than basketball.

"I would see it being a real grind on the players with very little rest."

There isn't expected to be time for pre-season games, as coaches will have enough to do just getting players back on the same page.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Young hockey players skate across the Bell Centre ice in Montreal on Sunday. The Canadiens will return to their arena in the weeks ahead after a deal was reached to end the NHL lockout early Sunday morning. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

14%

Injuries in the NBA reportedly rose more than 14 per cent from the previous season after their lockout ended in December 2011.

All-nighter saves NHL season from abyss

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman, left, and NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr worked through Saturday night with U.S. federal mediator Scot L. Beckenbaugh to reach a tentative agreement to end the lockout. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

An agonizingly long series of negotiations needed one final push. Spurred on by a tireless mediator, the NHL and the NHL Players' Association worked through the night to finally set aside their differences and return hockey to the place it belongs:

On the ice.

It almost seemed too good to be true when word started to leak out early Sunday morning that a marathon 16-hour negotiating session had produced a tentative deal to end the 113-day lockout. But then Gary Bettman and Donald Fehr appeared together to share the news.

"Hopefully, within a very few days the fans can get back to watching people who are skating — not the two of us," said Fehr, the NHLPA's executive director, looking as exhausted as everyone else in the bargaining room.

There is still plenty to do in a short period of time. In fact, the sides continued hammering out the final details of the players' new defined benefit pension plan even after the tentative deal was reached around 4:45 a.m. in a second-floor conference room at a Manhattan hotel.

"We have reached an agreement on the framework of a new collective-bargaining agreement, the details of which need to be put to paper," said Bettman, the longtime NHL commissioner who presided over his third lockout. "We've got to dot a lot of i's and cross a lot of t's. There's still a lot of work to be done, but the basic framework of the deal has been agreed upon."

At least some of the credit for that goes to Scot L. Beckenbaugh, a federal mediator who remained undeterred even though his previous experience with the two sides came during the previous lockout, just days before the 2004-05 season was cancelled.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Twitter reaction

"So excited to get back to Edmonton. See you soon Oiler fans!!!!"

Edmonton Oilers left-winger Taylor Hall

"To the fans that won't come back, I can understand. To the ones that will, thank you for your patience."

Phoenix Coyotes forward Paul Bissonnette

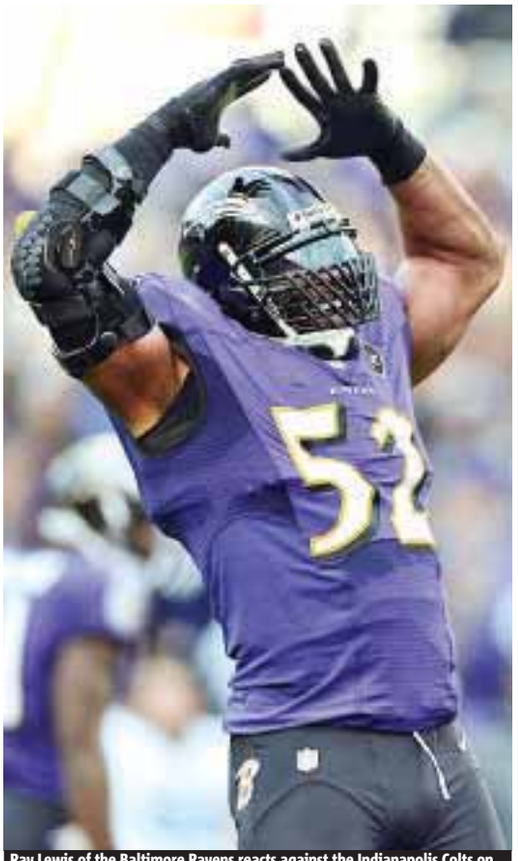
"Woke up to some great news...Big thank you to all who put in countless hours to get this thing done @NHLPA." New York Islanders forward Matt Moulson

"Bettman was the guy that had to pull the trigger whether this was done or not. He saved the season."

CBC's Don Cherry, giving credit to Gary Bettman for ending the lockout.

"First order of business: raise banner."

A tweet from the Stanley Cup champion Los Angeles Kings.



Ray Lewis of the Baltimore Ravens reacts against the Indianapolis Colts on Sunday in Baltimore. PATRICK SMITH/GETTY IMAGES

Lewis' last ride is taking him through Denver

NFL. Colts' loss ends turnaround season with rookie QB Luck

Anquan Boldin, Joe Flacco and a staunch Baltimore defence made sure on Sunday that Ray Lewis' last ride will take him to Denver.

Boldin set a franchise record with 145 yards receiving, including the clinching touchdown in the Ravens' 24-9 victory over Andrew Luck and Indianapolis in an AFC wild-card game in Baltimore. The win delays star linebacker Lewis' retirement for at least another week as Baltimore (11-6) heads to Denver next Saturday.

The Broncos beat the Ravens 34-17 three weeks ago.

"I wanted Denver," Boldin said. "Because they beat us."

Lewis, who made 13 tackles, even lined up at fullback for the final kneel-down in his last home game of a 17-year career. He then went into a short version of his trademark dance before being mobbed by teammates.

He followed with a victory lap after playing for the first time since tearing his right triceps on Oct. 14 against Dallas.

The loss ended the Colts' turnaround season, in which they went from 2-14 to the playoffs in coach Chuck Pagano's first year in Indianapolis (11-6). Pagano missed 12 weeks while undergoing treatment for leukemia and returned last week.

Sunday's victory enhanced the Ravens' success rate in opening playoff games. Flacco now has won at least one post-season game in all five of his pro seasons, the only quarterback to do it in the Super Bowl era.

His main target on Sunday was Boldin, who had receptions of 50 and 46 yards, plus his 18-yard TD on a floater from Flacco in the corner of the end zone with 9:14 to go.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"I knew how it started, but I never knew how it would end here in Baltimore. To go the way it did today, I wouldn't change nothing."

Baltimore Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis on his last game on home turf

World juniors

Team Canada finds some solace in news NHL is poised to return

The news for Team Canada went from bad to worse to hmm.

The world junior team had been awake for nearly 30 hours — including for their bronze-medal loss to Russia and flights to Helsinki and London — when they landed at Heathrow to find out their flight to Canada had been delayed a further 12 hours.

But in the time between landing in London and getting squirrelled away for a day in an airport hotel, they received word that the NHL lockout would be ending.

Clearly exhausted after their flights, and frustrated at the delays that would see them getting back home in the wee hours of Monday morning, some perked up at the news that they would soon be in long-awaited NHL camps.

"Can't wait," said goalie Malcolm Subban. "I'm tired, but I want to go to camp."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Miami	23	9	.719	—
d-New York	23	10	.697	½
Atlanta	20	12	.625	3
d-Indiana	20	14	.588	4
Chicago	18	13	.581	4½
Brooklyn	19	15	.559	5
Milwaukee	16	16	.500	7
Boston	16	17	.485	7½
Philadelphia	15	20	.429	9½
Orlando	12	21	.364	11½
Detroit	13	23	.361	12
Toronto	12	22	.353	12
Charlotte	9	24	.273	14½
Cleveland	8	27	.229	16½
Washington	4	28	.125	19

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Oklahoma City	26	7	.788	—
d-L.A. Clippers	27	8	.771	—
d-San Antonio	27	9	.750	½
Memphis	20	10	.667	4½
Golden State	22	11	.667	4
Houston	20	14	.588	6½
Portland	18	15	.545	8
Denver	19	16	.543	8
Minnesota	15	15	.500	9½
Utah	17	18	.486	10
L.A. Lakers	15	17	.469	10½
Dallas	13	21	.382	13½
Sacramento	13	21	.382	13½
Phoenix	12	22	.353	14½
New Orleans	8	25	.242	18

Sunday's results
Oklahoma City 104 Toronto 92
Charlotte 108 Detroit 101 (OT)
Miami 99 Washington 71
Memphis at Phoenix
Denver at L.A. Lakers
Saturday's results
Boston 89 Atlanta 81
Brooklyn 113 Sacramento 93
Denver 110 Utah 91
Houston 112 Cleveland 104
Indiana 95 Milwaukee 80
L.A. Clippers 115 Golden State 89
New Orleans 99 Dallas 96 (OT)
New York 114 Orlando 106
Portland 102 Minnesota 97
San Antonio 109 Philadelphia 86
Monday's games — All Times Eastern
Oklahoma City at Washington, 7 p.m.
Boston at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Chicago, 8 p.m.
San Antonio at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Utah, 9 p.m.
Orlando at Portland, 10 p.m.
Memphis at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

THUNDER 104, RAPTORS 92

OKLAHOMA CITY (104)
Durant 6-11 8-9 22, Ibaka 8-12 3-4 19, Perkins 2-4 0-0 4, Westbrook 8-17 6-6 23, Sefolosha 1-5 0-0 3, Martin 5-12 5-5 16, Collison 5-7 0-0 10, Thabeet 0-0 0-0 0, Jackson 3-7 0-0 7, Liggins 0-1 0-0 0, Maynor 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 38-77 22-24 104.
TORONTO (92)
Pietrus 1-4 0-0 3, Davis 2-7 0-0 4, Johnson 8-11 3-4 19, Calderon 4-8 1-1 10, DeRozan 4-16 3-4 11, Anderson 10-14 3-3 27, Fields 1-3 0-0 2, Ross 0-2 0-2 0, Lowry 3-8 2-3 10, Acy 1-1 4-4 6, Lucas 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 34-76 16-21 92.

Oklahoma City	**23**	**29**	**26**	**26—104**
Toronto	**18**	**32**	**17**	**25— 92**

3-Point Goals—Oklahoma City 6-22 (Durant 2-5, Jackson 1-3, Westbrook 1-3, Sefolosha 1-5, Martin 1-6), Toronto 8-23 (Anderson 4-8, Lowry 2-4, Pietrus 1-4, Calderon 1-4, Ross 0-1, DeRozan 0-1, Lucas 0-1). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Oklahoma City 46 (Ibaka, Collison 8), Toronto 42 (Johnson 9). Assists—Oklahoma City 24 (Durant, Westbrook 7), Toronto 28 (Calderon 11). Total Fouls—Oklahoma City 20, Toronto 18. Technicals—Durant, Toronto Coach Casey, Lowry. A—17,634 (19,800) at Toronto.

SOCCER

ENGLAND

FA CUP
Third Round
Sunday's results
Swansea City 2 Arsenal 2
Mansfield Town 1 Liverpool 2

ITALY

SERIE A
Sunday's results
AC Milan 2 Siena 1
Chievo 1 Atalanta 0
Fiorentina 0 Pescara 2
Genoa 2 Bologna 0
Juventus 1 Sampdoria 2
Napoli 4 Roma 1
Parma 2 Palermo 1
Udinese 3 Inter Milan 0

SPAIN

PRIMERA
Sunday's results
Barcelona 4 Espanyol 0
Celta Vigo 3 Valladolid 1
Mallorca 1 Atletico Madrid 1
Real Madrid 4 Real Sociedad 3

NFL

WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS

Sunday's results
AFC — Baltimore 24 Indianapolis 9
NFC — Seattle 24 Washington 14
Saturday's results
AFC — Houston 19 Cincinnati 13
NFC — Green Bay 24 Minnesota 10

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

Saturday, Jan. 12 — All Times Eastern
AFC — Baltimoreat Denver, 4:30 p.m.
NFC — Green Bay at San Francisco, 8 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 13
NFC — Seattle at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
AFC — Houston at New England, 4:30 p.m.

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday, Jan. 20
AFC and NFC, TBA

SUPER BOWL

Sunday, Feb. 3 — At New Orleans, La.
AFC vs. NFC champions, 6 p.m.

HOCKEY

IIHF WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

At Ufa, Russia
Saturday's results
GOLD MEDAL
U.S. 3 Sweden 1
BRONZE MEDAL
Russia 6 **Canada 5** (OT)
Friday's result
FIFTH PLACE
Czech Republic 4 Switzerland 3

RECENT MEDALLISTS

The top three finishers in world junior hockey championships (in order of gold, silver and bronze):
2013 — U.S., Sweden, Russia
2012 — Sweden, Russia, **Canada**
2011 — Russia, Canada, U.S.
2010 — U.S., **Canada**, Sweden
2009 — **Canada**, Sweden, Russia
2008 — **Canada**, Sweden, Russia

FINAL SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	P
Nugent-Hopkins, Cda	**4**	**11**	**15**
Armia, Fin	6	6	12
Ma.Granlund, Fin	5	7	12
Teravainen, Fin	5	6	11
Gaudreau, U.S.	7	2	9
Dano, Svk	4	5	9
Trouba, U.S.	4	5	9
Huberdeau. Cda	**3**	**6**	**9**

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Something will happen today that makes you very angry – and you have every right to be annoyed. It's good to let off steam once in a while, and the planets warn that this particular explosion is long overdue.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Success can be yours, but you must be positive. This is one of the best times of the year for getting yourself noticed, but it is more likely to happen if you put yourself in situations where you can be seen.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Your confidence is sky-high at the moment and long may it stay that way. However, today's Mars-Saturn link warns that excessive self-belief could have negative consequences. Try not to be too outrageous.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
The current cosmic set-up makes it difficult to do anything out of the ordinary because you are afraid to draw attention to yourself. It is, however, a good time for planning. You've a whole year ahead of you.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
The planets warn that a rival is looking for ways to bring you down and profit at your expense, so be careful. Just because you play by the rules does not mean you can take it for granted they do too.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You may have serious doubts about a project of some kind but you must not let them show because others are counting on you to lead the way. Is that a recipe for disaster? Maybe, but what choice do you have?

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Opportunity is knocking loud and clear and you must allow yourself to hear it. This is one of the best times of the year for furthering your ambitions, so get up, get out there and get great things done.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Put your own needs first today and don't be afraid to do something that will give your rivals the ammunition they need to tell the world that you are selfish. Since when have you cared what other people think about you?

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
What you need to understand today is that, while words are important, it is how you deliver them that matters. Just because you have something nasty to say does not mean you have to say it in a nasty voice.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Whatever your current worries may be they are of only minor importance. In fact, what happens over the next few days will make you realize that compared to most people you are actually very well off.

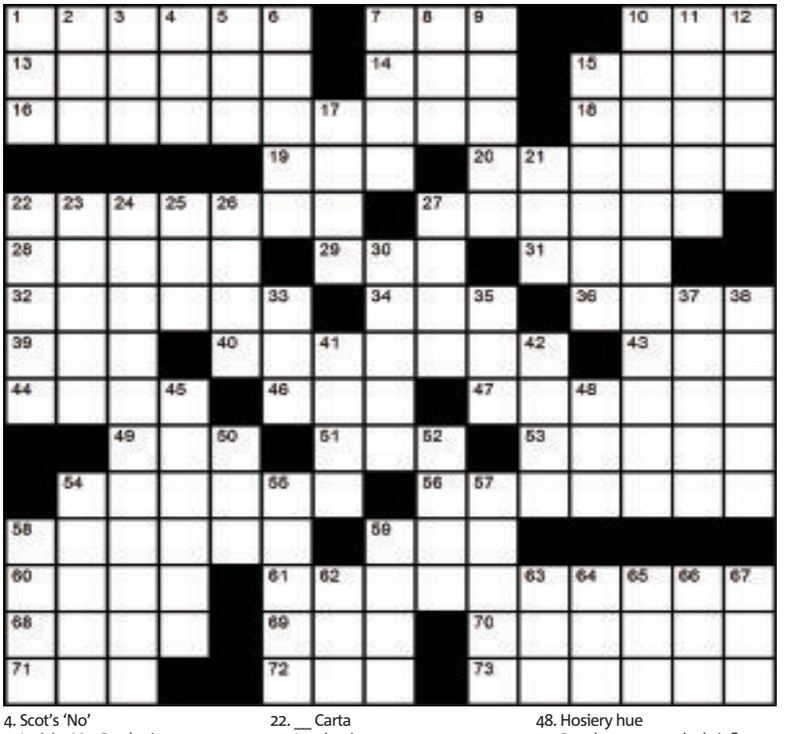
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If you think lucky and act lucky the chances are that you will be lucky in some way over the next 24 hours. It's not the world "out there" that matters but the world that exists inside your head.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
The planets urge you to put your ego to one side today and make your peace with a certain individual. The fact is you need them more than they need you, so it's good politics to kiss and make up.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across & Down

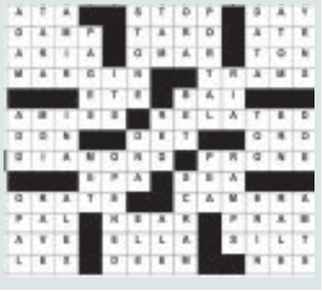
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Vegas show, __: Still the One
7. Smartphone add-on
10. Ms. Messing, briefly
13. Duck: French
14. Kanga's sidekick
15. "__-__-voom!"
16. Governor General of Canada's official residence: 2 wds.
18. Facial scrub, St. __
19. Place
20. Brit singer Adele's surname
22. The Scottish Play
27. Stonehenge ritualists
28. Hurt
29. "__ you sure?"
31. Clip-__ (Earrings)
32. Potatoes au __
34. Simon & Garfunkel's "I __ _ Rock"
36. Dentyne, and others
39. Mr. Beatty
40. Northern Ontario hometown of the country star at #1-Across
43. Ms. Saldana of "Avatar" (2009)
44. Inquires
46. "Sk8er __" by Avril Lavigne
47. "The __ of Things"
49. Drake's music
51. Botanist Mr. Gray
53. Leslie Nielsen's '__ Gun' comedies
54. Mr. Pattinson
56. The Hunger Games heroine
58. Mr. Brosnan
59. Ashlee to Jessica, for short
60. The __ (U2 guitarist)
61. Calgary-born actor Cory Monteith's role on "Glee": 2 wds.
68. Casual tops
69. Tokyo, once
70. Charlie Sheen's brother
71. Flub up
72. Uncooked
73. Accept the ring: 2 wds.

Down
1. Comp. part
2. Song from the musical South Pacific: "Bali __"
3. Furthermore
4. Scot's 'No'
5. Lyricist Mr. Gershwin
6. Pursuit of Happiness hit: "I'm an __ Now"
7. "Quicker than _ __ of light..." - Madonna
8. Parliament Hill fig.
9. __ bear
10. Host of #47-Across: 2 wds.
11. Levels
12. Paul McCartney's instrument
15. L'Anse aux Meadows inhabitant
17. "That's funny.": 2 wds.
21. Couplet
22. __ Carta
23. Land units
24. Nickelback frontman: 2 wds.
25. Casino wager
26. Modify
27. Ms. Lovato
30. Harold of "Ghostbusters" (1984)
33. Calligrapher's prop
35. Actress, __-Margret
37. Social customs
38. "Sowing the __ of Love" by Tears For Fears
41. Castle defense
42. Filmmaker, Gus Van __
45. Buffalo players
48. Hosiery hue
50. Bench press muscle, briefly
52. Similar
54. "Easy __" (1969)
55. Send to a specialist
57. Fireplace leftovers
58. Original Beatles drummer Mr. Best
59. Winter fluff
62. __ Red apple
63. Ms. Thurman
64. Don't hire a pro, e.g.
65. Guileful
66. Goose: French
67. 7, 16 and 38, e.g.

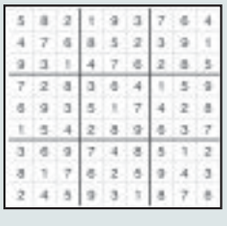
Friday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Friday's Sudoku



	4		5		1	6	8	
					3			4
3						1		2
	9		4			7	3	
				5				
	6	7			8		1	
8		3						9
2			9					
	5	6	8		2		4	

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SOLD	2010 KIA FORTE SX	$17,995	$17,388
	2005 TOYOTA CAMRY SE	$16,955	$14,388
	2009 JEEP WRANGLER X AWD	$19,995	$19,388
	2010 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT AWD	$24,995	$24,388
	2007 PONTIAC WAVE SE	$10,995	$10,388
	2007 DODGE CALIBER R/T	$15,995	$15,388
	2006 MAZDA 3 GS	$11,995	$11,388
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SOLD	2010 HYUNDAI TUCSON GL AWD	$23,995	$23,388
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	2013 HYUNDAI SONATA GLS	$23,995	$23,388
	2013 HYUNDAI ACCENT GL	$17,995	$17,388
SOLD	2013 HYUNDAI ELANTRA GL	$20,995	$20,388
	2012 HYUNDAI SONATA LTD	$29,995	$29,388
	2010 HYUNDAI ACCENT GL	$11,995	$11,388
	2012 HYUNDAI ELANTRA TOURING GL	$18,995	$18,388
	2013 HYUNDAI SONATA GLS	$24,995	$23,388
	2013 HYUNDAI ACCENT GL	$18,995	$18,388
	2013 HYUNDAI ACCENT GL	$18,995	$18,388
	2012 HYUNDAI SANTA FE GL SPORT AWD	$30,995	$30,388
SOLD	2005 HYUNDAI TUCSON GL FWD	$13,995	$13,388
	2010 HYUNDAI VERACRUZ LTD AWD	$32,995	$29,388
	2012 HYUNDAI SONATA GLS	$22,995	$22,388

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